

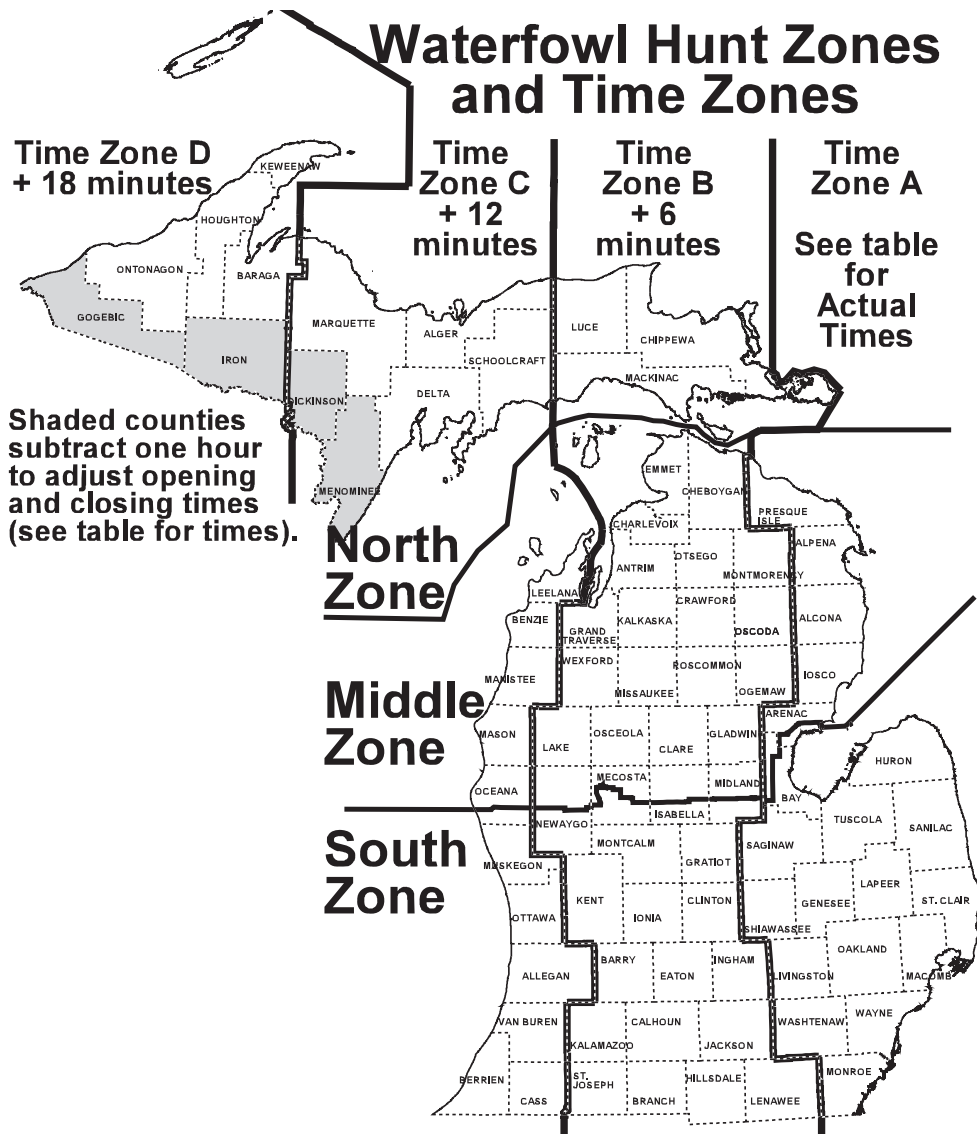
## Hunting Zones and Shooting Hours

Michigan's North Zone for waterfowl (ducks, coots, moorhens) hunting includes all of the Upper Peninsula (see map below). The Middle Zone consists of the north half of the Lower Peninsula. The remainder of the Lower Peninsula is called the South Zone. Note: The late Canada goose season takes place only in the South Zone. The exact dividing line between the Middle and South Zones is described as follows:

That portion of the Lower Peninsula south of a line beginning at the Wisconsin border in Lake Michigan due west of the mouth of Stony Creek in Oceana County; then due east to, and easterly and southerly along the south shore of Stony Creek to Scenic Drive, easterly and southerly along Scenic Drive to Stony Lake Road, easterly along Stony Lake and Garfield Roads to Michigan Highway 20, east along Michigan 20 to U.S. Highway 10 Business Route (BR) in the city of Midland, east along U.S. 10 BR to U.S. 10, east along U.S. 10 to Interstate Highway 75/U.S. Highway 23, north along I-75/U.S. 23 to the U.S. 23 exit at Standish, east along U.S. 23 to the centerline of the AuGres River, then southerly along the centerline of the AuGres River to Saginaw Bay, then on a line directly east 10 miles into Saginaw Bay, and from that point on a line directly northeast to the Canada border.

Below is the map with waterfowl (ducks, coots, moorhens) hunting zones and all four of Michigan's Waterfowling time zones. If hunting in Gogebic, Iron, Dickinson or Menominee counties that are on Central Time, you must adjust the listed times to Central Time.

Add the minutes indicated below to the times listed in Zone A table on last page of guide for the correct shooting and hawking hours in Zones B, C and D.



## Managed Waterfowl Hunt Areas

Permits are issued at several managed areas by drawings held at area check stations. A \$4.00 daily or \$13.00 annual permit fee is charged for use of areas with the word (Fee) shown below. Permits can be purchased at check stations. The annual \$13.00 permit is accepted at all state areas. Some early season hunts are by reservation. Each year hunters may apply for reservations from August 1 through August 28 at license agents. Special rules are enforced, including shell limits, shot size limits, hunting party size, etc. Maps listing the special rules are available at the area check stations. Normal managed area drawings may be cancelled late in the season if extreme weather results in low hunter participation. Area managers will post amended check station hunting rules a minimum of two days prior to any changes. Late in the season, hunters may wish to call area headquarters to verify that drawings will be held. Use of waders, decoys, calls, retrievers (except Allegan) and small boats and motors is recommended. See below for additional details.

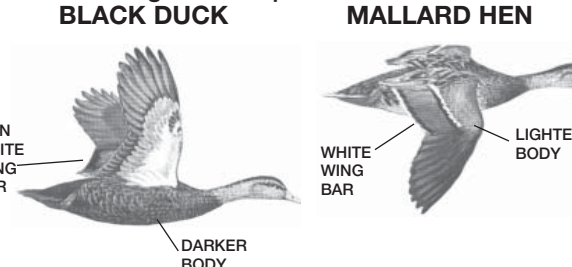
Area	County and Nearest Town	Telephone Number	Drawing Times (Reserved Hunting Dates)	Youth Hunting Dates <sup>a</sup>
ALLEGAN Highbanks and Fennville Farm	Allegan, Allegan, Fennville	(269) 673-2430 (269) 561-2258	Drawings to select hunt zones each day of season (including Jan. 5) are at 5:30 a.m. at Fennville Farm check station for Farm/Highbanks hunts. Hunt Highbanks Saturday, Sunday, and Monday only. BRAVO Posts first-come, first-served through Fennville Farm drive in window. (Fee)	Nov. 24 (a.m.) and Jan. 5 (p.m.) non-reserved
FISH POINT	Tuscola, Unionville	(989) 674-2511	Drawings to select hunt zones each day of season are at 5:30 a.m. for morning hunts and 11:00 a.m. for afternoon hunts. (Fee)	Opening day (p.m.) and Oct. 27 (p.m.) non-reserved
MUSKEGON COUNTY WASTEWATER	Muskegon, Twin Lake	(231) 788-5055 Call for opening date.	Hunts only on Tuesday (a.m.), Thursday (a.m.), Saturday (a.m. and p.m.) and Sunday (a.m. and p.m.) during the season. Drawings to select hunt zones are at 5:30 a.m. for morning and 11:00 a.m. for afternoon hunts. There will be no hunting Nov. 15-30.	Oct. 27 (a.m. and p.m.) non-reserved
NAYANQUING POINT	Bay, Linwood	(989) 697-5101	Drawings to select hunt zones each day of season are 5:30 a.m. for morning hunts and 11:00 a.m. for afternoon hunts. (Fee)	Opening day (p.m.) and Oct. 27 (p.m.) non-reserved
POINTE MOUILLEE	Monroe, South Rockwood	(734) 379-9692	Open hunting each day of season on most of game area. Managed Hunting Area permits issued opening day and Sunday and Wednesday only thereafter. Drawings these days are 5:30 a.m. for morning hunts and 11:00 a.m. for afternoon hunts. (Fee)	Opening day (p.m.) and Nov. 4 (a.m.) non-reserved
SHIAWASSEE RIVER	Saginaw, St. Charles	(989) 865-6211	Drawings to select hunt zones each day of season are 5:00 a.m. for morning hunts and 11:00 a.m. for afternoon hunts. (Fee) (Reservations opening weekend of duck season)	Opening day (p.m.) reserved
SHIAWASSEE FEDERAL REFUGE	Saginaw, Saginaw	(989) 777-5930	Drawings to select hunt zones held 5:30 a.m. for morning hunt only. (Daily hunter charge is \$4.00.) (Reservations opening weekend of duck season)	NONE
ST. CLAIR FLATS (HARSENS IS.)	St. Clair, Algonac	(810) 748-9504	Drawings to select hunt zones each day of season are 5:30 a.m. for morning hunts and 11:30 a.m. for afternoon hunts. (Fee) (Reservations opening weekend of duck season)	Opening day (p.m.) reserved and Nov. 8 (p.m.) non-reserved

<sup>a</sup>Youth Hunt: Priority daily drawings are available for hunting parties with one or two parents or legal guardians 18 years of age or older and at least one youth 10-16. All youth participating in these priority hunts must be properly licensed to hunt. Only parties including youth hunters will be allowed to hunt at Allegan and ONLY Youths will be permitted to shoot during these hunts. The maximum party size for youth priority daily drawings is four.

## Identifying Ducks

Skill at identifying ducks in flight is important to limit harvest of less numerous duck species. Species with special restrictions are as follows:

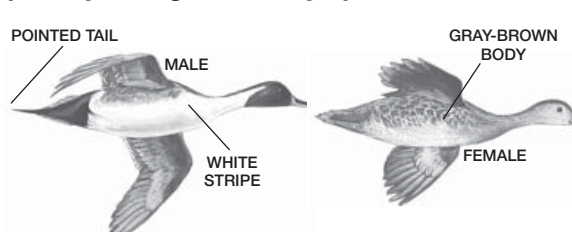
**Mallard Hen/Black Duck**—Both are restricted to one per day within the overall six-bird daily limit. Both birds have white underwings, but the black duck's darker body contrasts more sharply with the underwing than does the brown body of the female mallard. Mallards have white wing bars on both edges of the blue speculum. The black duck usually has none or only a thin white bar on the back edge of the speculum.



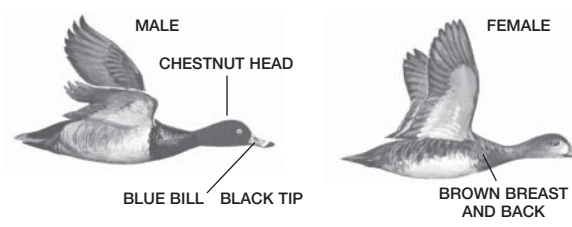
**Wood Duck**—This medium-sized duck frequents wooded ponds, streams and marshes statewide, especially early in the season. Drakes are very colorful, and hens and drakes have colorful wings with blue, maroon and silver hues. Calls are whistles and squeals. Two per day may be harvested.



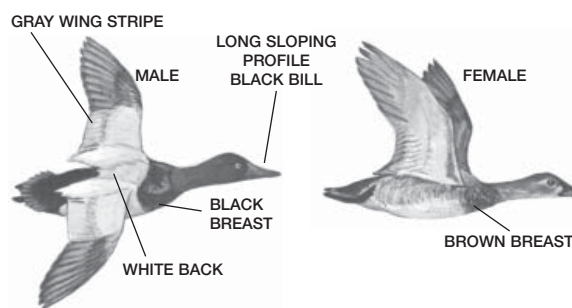
**Pintail**—Pintails are puddle ducks that frequent marshes. They are about the size of a mallard but slimmer in appearance. Few are well colored before December and most appear gray. The female wing speculum is cinnamon-colored, while the male speculum is green with a white trailing edge. Only one pintail may be harvested per day during the 60-day open season.



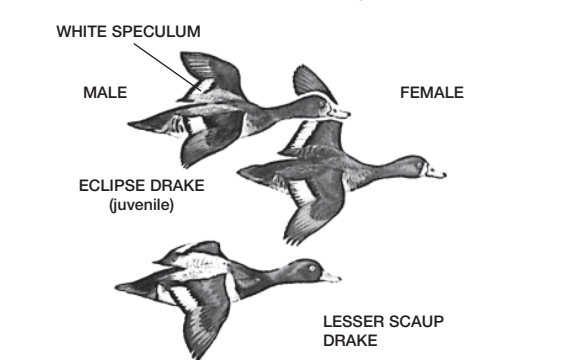
**Redhead**—This large diving duck has the shape of a mallard but is more uniformly brown or gray, with an unmarked gray wing speculum. Well-colored males have a chestnut red head. This bird frequents the open waters of large and small lakes like the canvasback. Two per day may be harvested.



**Canvasback**—This large, mallard-sized diving duck has a characteristic wedge-shaped head and is usually found on the open waters of large and small lakes. Well-colored males have a red head. Two canvasbacks may be harvested per day during the 60-day open season.



**Scaup**—These birds are medium to small diving ducks. Greater and lesser scaup (bluebill) appear nearly identical in the field, however the white band near the trailing edges of the wings runs almost to the tip in the greater scaup, but only about half way in the lesser. The limit for both species combined is 2 per day.



## Daily Limit For Ducks and Mergansers

The daily limit of 6 ducks may include no more than 4 mallards (no more than 1 of which may be a female), 2 scaup, 2 wood ducks, 2 redheads, 1 pintail, 1 black duck and 2 canvasbacks. In addition to the duck limit, hunters may take 5 mergansers, only 2 of which may be a hooded merganser. The possession limit is twice the daily limit for ducks and mergansers.

## License and Waterfowl Stamp Requirements

To hunt migratory waterfowl in Michigan you must have a small game hunting license. Persons age 16 and older also must have a Michigan Waterfowl Hunting License (\$5.00) and a Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp\* (\$15.00).

The HIP endorsement (see HIP information in this guide) is required for all persons hunting migratory birds.

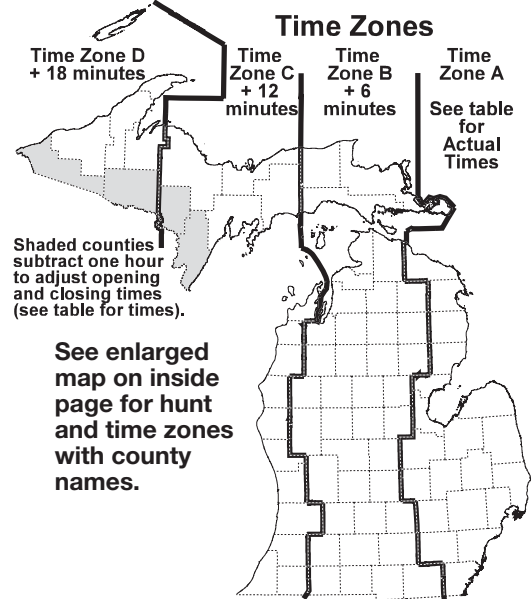
- Small game license options (only one required).**
- Resident small game license \$15.00
  - Resident senior small game license \$6.00
  - Resident junior small game license \$1.00
- (These licenses are not required for a resident, resident's spouse, or resident's children to hunt on their enclosed farmland on which they live.)
- Nonresident small game license \$69.00
  - Nonresident 3-day small game license \$30.00

\*The Federal Migratory Bird Hunting Stamp must be signed with your name across the face in ink. It is available at post offices and some Michigan license agents. All other items are available from license dealers or online from the DNR Web site: [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr).

## Youth Waterfowl Weekend

Youth waterfowl hunting weekend will be September 15-16 statewide for properly licensed youths 10 to 15 years of age. The daily limit includes ducks, mergansers, geese, coots, and moorhens. Youths must be accompanied by a parent, guardian, or someone 18 years or older designated by their parent or guardian. The adult will not be allowed to hunt ducks, mergansers, coots, or moorhens and will not be required to have a waterfowl hunting license. The daily limits and species restrictions are the same as those allowed in the regular season. Daily shooting hours are listed in the Migratory Bird Hunting Hours Table.

Thank you for purchasing a Michigan hunting license. Your hunting license dollars help restore and improve habitats for wildlife species, advance research on wildlife and wildlife-borne diseases, foster programs that help ensure access for public hunting, support hunter safety education and much more. We encourage you to keep hunting and to share your experiences with others. In doing so, you can do your part to keep our state's hunting heritage alive for future generations.



### Zone A. Hunting Hours Table.

One-half hour before sunrise to sunset (adjusted for daylight-saving time).

Date	2007				2008			
	September	October	November	December	January	February	March	
	AM PM	AM PM	AM PM	AM PM	AM PM	AM PM	AM PM	
1	6:27 8:07	6:59 7:14	7:35 6:26	7:12 5:01	7:32 5:10	7:17 5:46	6:37 6:23	
2	6:28 8:05	7:00 7:13	7:37 6:24	7:13 5:00	7:32 5:11	7:16 5:47	6:35 6:24	
3	6:29 8:03	7:01 7:11	7:38 6:23	7:14 5:00	7:32 5:12	7:14 5:48	6:34 6:25	
4	6:30 8:02	7:02 7:09	7:39 6:22	7:15 5:00	7:32 5:13	7:13 5:50	6:32 6:26	
5	6:31 8:00	7:04 7:07	7:40 6:21	7:16 5:00	7:32 5:14	7:12 5:51	6:30 6:28	
6	6:32 7:58	7:05 7:06	7:42 6:20	7:17 5:00	7:32 5:15	7:11 5:52	6:29 6:29	
7	6:34 7:57	7:06 7:04	7:43 6:18	7:18 5:00	7:32 5:16	7:10 5:54	6:27 6:30	
8	6:35 7:55	7:07 7:02	7:44 6:17	7:19 5:00	7:31 5:17	7:09 5:55	6:25 6:31	
9	6:36 7:53	7:08 7:01	7:45 6:16	7:20 5:00	7:31 5:18	7:07 5:56	7:24 7:32	
10	6:37 7:51	7:09 6:59	7:47 6:15	7:20 5:00	7:31 5:19	7:06 5:58	7:22 7:34	
11	6:38 7:50	7:10 6:57	7:48 6:14	7:21 5:00	7:31 5:20	7:05 5:59		
12	6:39 7:48	7:11 6:56	7:49 6:13	7:22 5:00	7:30 5:21	7:04 6:00		
13	6:40 7:46	7:13 6:54	7:50 6:12	7:23 5:00	7:30 5:22	7:02 6:02		
14	6:41 7:44	7:14 6:52	7:51 6:11	7:24 5:00	7:30 5:23	7:01 6:03		
15	6:42 7:43	7:15 6:51	7:52 6:10	7:25 5:00	7:29 5:24	7:00 6:04		
16	6:43 7:41	7:16 6:49	7:53 6:09	7:26 5:01	7:29 5:25	6:58 6:05		
17	6:44 7:39	7:17 6:48	7:54 6:08	7:27 5:01	7:28 5:26	6:57 6:07		
18	6:45 7:37	7:18 6:46	7:55 6:07	7:28 5:01	7:28 5:27	6:56 6:08		
19	6:46 7:35	7:20 6:45	7:56 6:06	7:29 5:02	7:27 5:28	6:54 6:09		
20	6:47 7:34	7:21 6:43	7:57 6:05	7:30 5:02	7:27 5:30	6:52 6:10		
21	6:48 7:32	7:22 6:41	7:58 6:04	7:31 5:03	7:26 5:32	6:51 6:12		
22	6:49 7:30	7:23 6:40	7:59 6:03	7:32 5:03	7:25 5:33	6:50 6:13		
23	6:50 7:28	7:24 6:38	7:59 6:02	7:33 5:04	7:25 5:34	6:48 6:14		
24	6:52 7:27	7:26 6:37	7:59 6:01	7:34 5:04	7:24 5:35	6:46 6:15		
25	6:53 7:25	7:27 6:36	7:59 6:00	7:35 5:05	7:23 5:37	6:45 6:17		
26	6:54 7:23	7:28 6:34	7:59 6:00	7:36 5:05	7:22 5:38	6:43 6:18		
27	6:55 7:21	7:29 6:33	7:59 6:00	7:37 5:06	7:21 5:39	6:42 6:19		
28	6:56 7:20	7:30 6:31	7:59 6:00	7:38 5:07	7:20 5:41	6:40 6:20		
29	6:57 7:18	7:32 6:30	7:59 6:01	7:39 5:08	7:20 5:42	6:39 6:22		
30	6:58 7:16	7:33 6:29	7:59 6:01	7:40 5:09	7:19 5:43			
31		7:34 6:27			7:18 5:44			

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(Rev. 08/21/07)

## Seasons and Daily Limits

SPECIES	ZONES/UNITS	OPEN SEASONS (all dates inclusive)	BAG LIMITS DAILY POSSESSION		GMU HARVEST QUOTAS	NOTES
DUCKS & MERGANSERS	North Zone	Sept. 29 - Nov. 27	6	12	—	a, b
	Middle Zone	Sept. 29 - Nov. 25 and Dec. 1 - 2				
	South Zone	Oct. 6 - Dec. 2 and Jan. 5 - 6, 2008				
COOTS AND MOORHENS	Same season dates as ducks in the respective zones.		15	30	—	b
SNIFE AND RAILS	Statewide	Sept. 15 - Nov. 14	8	16	—	b, c
CANADA GEESE Early Season	North Zone	Sept. 1 - 10	3	6	—	d
	Middle & South Zones	Sept. 1 - 15				
CANADA GEESE Regular Season	Upper Peninsula MVP	Sept. 18 - Nov. 1	2	4	—	e, f
	Lower Peninsula MVP	Oct. 6 - Nov. 12 and Nov. 22 - Nov. 28				
	Lower Peninsula SJB	Oct. 6 - 14 and Nov. 22 - Dec. 12				
CANADA GEESE Local Goose Management Unit Seasons	Allegan Co. GMU	Nov. 24 - Dec. 2 and Dec. 27 - Jan. 31, 2008	2	4	2,000 750	g
	Muskegon W.W. GMU	Oct. 16 - Nov. 13 and Dec. 1 - 16	2	4		
	Saginaw Co. GMU	Oct. 6 - Nov. 24	1	2		
	Tuscola/Huron GMU	Oct. 6 - Nov. 24	1	2		
CANADA GEESE Late Season	South Zone (excluding local GMUs)	Jan. 5 - Feb. 3, 2008	5	10	—	g
OTHER GEESE Snow, Blue, Ross	Statewide	Sept. 22 - Dec. 3	10	30	—	
			1	2		
White-fronted and Brant						

### Notes/Exceptions

- See daily limit restrictions for ducks and mergansers. The merganser daily limit is in addition to the duck daily limit.
- See Youth Waterfowl Weekend section on this page for requirements.
- Daily limit is 8 rails (Sora and Virginia combined) and 8 snipe. The possession limit is twice the daily limit.
- Early goose season in Saginaw, Tuscola, and Huron counties is Sept. 1-10. See 2007 Michigan Hunting and Trapping Guide for details on Early Goose Season in State Parks and Recreation Areas.
- MVP and SJB Zones are shown on inside page of this guide in the Goose Management Unit Regulations section.
- Excludes local Goose Management Units (GMUs).
- Local goose Management Unit (GMU) boundaries are shown on inside page of this guide. Local GMU seasons will end before listed ending dates if harvest quotas are reached. Although a portion of the Allegan Co. GMU season will be held in January, local GMUs are not included in the Late Season.

## MICHIGAN WATERFOWL HUNTING GUIDE

### 2007-2008 SEASONS



Great Lakes, Great Times, Great Outdoors

[www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)

### Important reminders for 2007:

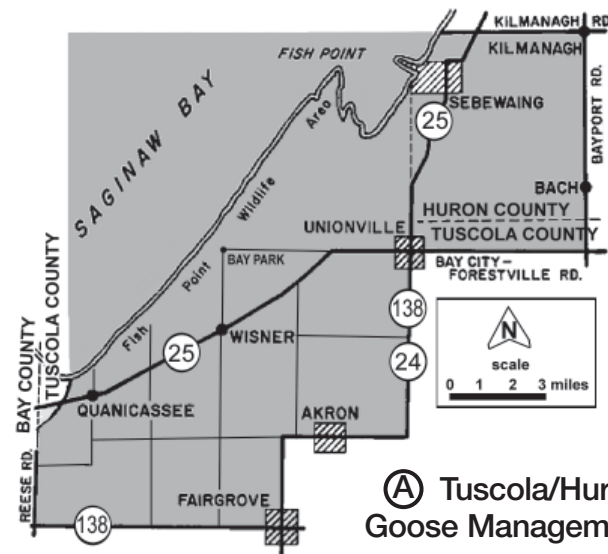
- Bag limit for early Canada Goose season remains at three.
- Bag limit for late Canada Goose season increases to five.
- Regular Canada Goose season dates different for UP and LP.
- Season dates and bag limit changes for Allegan and Muskegon Co. Wastewater GMUs.
- Youth Waterfowl Weekend Sept. 15-16.



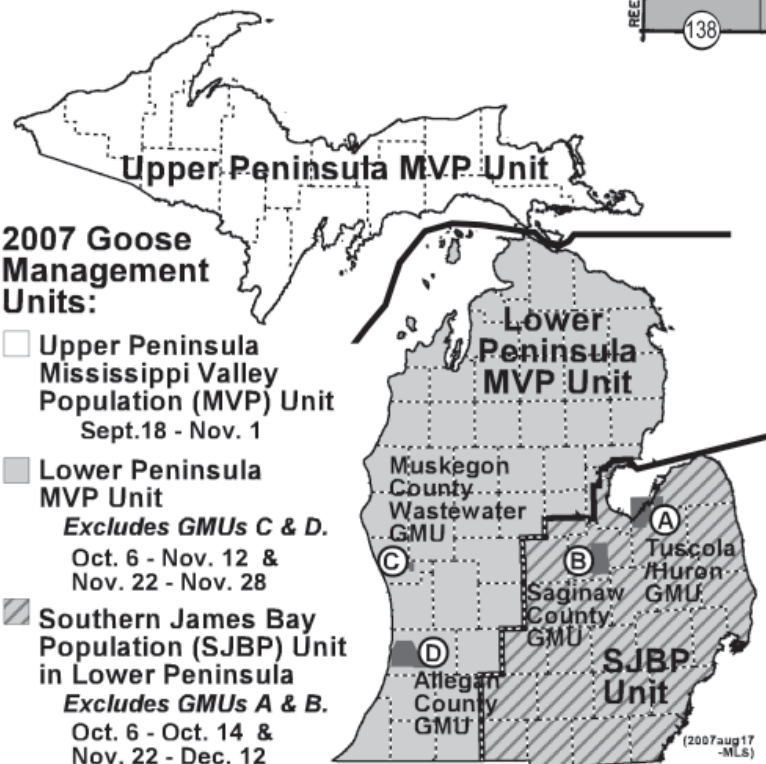


The map shows the Muskegon County Wastewater Management System No. 1, which is a hatched rectangular area. To the north of this area is a 'RESTRICTED AREA' indicated by diagonal hatching. The map includes several roads: N. ELTON PARK RD. to the west, MAPLE ISLAND RD. to the north, SHERMAN AVE. to the south, and MOORLAND RD. to the east. A north arrow and a scale bar (0 to 1/2 mile) are located in the bottom left corner. The map also shows the Muskegon State Game Area to the northwest and the Newago and Swanston areas to the north. The Muskegon County and Newago County boundaries are indicated at the top.

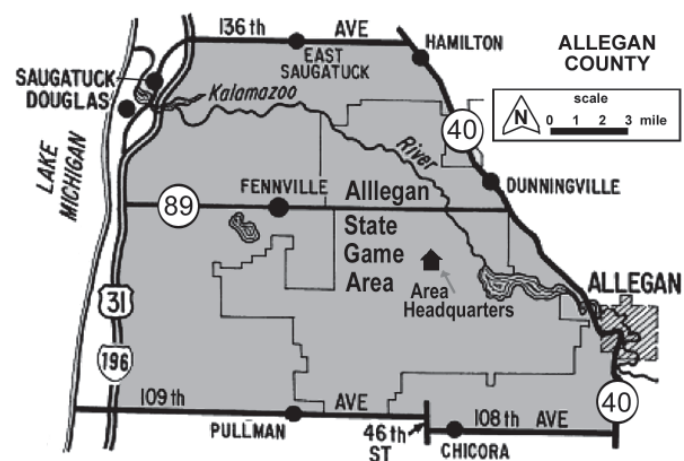
Oct. 16 - Nov. 13 and  
Dec. 1 - 16  
Daily Bag—2 Canada Geese  
Hunts only Tues. (a.m.),  
Thurs. (a.m.), Sat. (a.m. and p.m.)  
and Sun. (a.m. and p.m.)  
during the season



Oct. 6 - Nov. 24  
Quota—750 Canada Geese  
Daily Bag—1 Canada Goose



Nov. 24 - Dec. 2 and  
Dec. 27 - Jan. 31, 2008  
Daily Bag—2 Canada Geese



If you are planning to hunt any migratory birds (ducks, geese, woodcock, snipe, rails, etc.) in Michigan this fall, you must have a Harvest Information Program endorsement printed on your small game license. The HIP endorsement automatically is included with the purchase of every waterfowl license. Persons who are hunting migratory birds without this endorsement may be fined.

The HIP survey is used to increase accuracy in estimating harvest in each state and is important for state and federal efforts to manage migratory birds. The HIP endorsement, which consists of the statement: “Migratory Bird Hunter Survey—YES,” is printed on your small game license when you answer the HIP survey questions. There is no cost for this endorsement. If the license agent fails to ask you the HIP questions, you can do any of the following to receive the endorsement:

- Ask the agent to reissue the license
- Visit the DNR e-license Web site at [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)
- Visit any DNR Operations Service Center.

*The Michigan Department of Natural Resources is committed to the conservation, protection, management, use and enjoyment of the State's natural resources for current and future generations.*

*The Natural Resources Commission is the governing body for the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. In providing a strategic framework for the DNR to effectively manage the state's resources, the NRC works closely with a broad cross-section of constituencies to establish and continuously improve natural resources management policy.*

**NOTICE:** This brochure is not a legal notice, nor a complete collection of hunting regulations and laws. It is a condensed guide issued for hunters' convenience. Copies of wildlife conservation orders can be obtained from our web site, [www.michigan.gov/dnr](http://www.michigan.gov/dnr)

The Michigan Duck Hunters Association (MDHA) coordinates the Michigan waterfowl stamp program in partnership with the Michigan Department of Natural Resources. MDHA is a non-profit organization dedicated to waterfowl and wetland conservation. Proceeds from stamp sales will be used to fund MDHA projects, with 10% used to match DNR funding for purchasing wetlands.

The 2007 stamp features a pair of pintails (see guide cover) painted by Rod Lawrence. Purchase of these collector-edition stamps is voluntary and does not replace the state waterfowl hunting license. MSHA will mail waterfowl hunters a free copy of the stamp (subject to availability) if they send a self-addressed, stamped envelope with proof of license purchase to: Michigan Duck Hunters Association, Waterfowl Stamp Program, P.O. Box 20, Midland, MI 48640.



The Federal Aid Wildlife Restoration Act places an excise tax on firearms, handguns, ammunition and archery equipment. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service apportions these funds to state wildlife agencies to be used for wildlife management, research, habitat acquisition, game area and shooting range development and hunter education. Since its inception in 1937, Michigan's share of the Wildlife Restoration funds has reached almost \$150 million.

The Michigan Department of Natural Resources provides equal opportunities for employment and access to Michigan's natural resources. Both state and federal laws prohibit discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, religion, disability, age, sex, height, weight or marital status under the Civil Rights Acts of 1964 as amended (MI PA 453 and MI PA 220, Title V of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 as amended, and the Americans with Disabilities Act). If you believe that you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility, or if you desire additional information, please write: Human Resources, Michigan Department of Natural Resources, 3054 W. Grand Blvd., Detroit, MI 48202 or the Division of Federal Assistance of Civil Rights, Cadillac Place, Suite 3300, 3001 North Fairfax Drive, Mail Stop MBSP-4000, Arlington, VA 22203.

For information or assistance on this publication, contact the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, Box 30444, Lansing, MI 48909-7944. This publication is available in alternative formats upon request.

Duck populations surveyed in the mid-continent prairie and parkland regions increased 14% from last year and were 24% above the long-term average. However, most of the mallard, wood duck, black duck, and green-winged teal harvested in Michigan (about 75% of the total harvest) come from Michigan and eastern Canada. These duck populations have been relatively stable over the last several years except Michigan mallards, which have been declining. Michigan's Canada goose harvest is derived from primarily three flocks, including the Mississippi Valley Population (MVP), the Southern James Bay Population (SJB), and local giant Canada geese. The MVP and local giant populations are up from last year's estimates, and the SJB population is holding stable from last year. Recommendations for this year's waterfowl seasons were developed by the DNR with input from the Citizens' Waterfowl Advisory Committee and many other individuals interested in Michigan waterfowl. All rules and regulations in this guide are consistent with federal regulations and received approval by the Natural Resources Commission and the DNR Director.

**RESTRICTION**—No person shall take or attempt to take migratory game birds (including woodcock):

- With a trap, snare, net, swivel gun, punt gun, battery gun, machine gun, fishhook, poison, drug, explosive or stupefying substance.
- With any firearm except a 10 gauge or smaller shotgun capable of holding no more than three shells. Shotguns capable of holding more than 3 shells shall be plugged with a one-piece filler, incapable of removal without disassembling the gun, so that the total capacity of the shotgun does not exceed three shells.
- With the use of any single projectile shotshell. Bows and arrows are legal for waterfowl hunting.  
By the use or possession of more than one gun for each person in the hunting party.
- From or with the aid or use of a car or other motor driven land conveyance or aircraft, except that paraplegics and single or double amputees of the legs who have been issued a DNR permit to take game from a standing vehicle may use a stationary motor vehicle, or stationary motor driven land conveyance. "Paraplegic" means an individual afflicted with paralysis of the lower half of the body with involvement of both legs, usually due to disease of or injury to the spinal cord.
- From or by means of any motorboat, power boat, or other craft having a motor attached, or any sailboat, or any floating craft or device of any kind propelled or towed by power or sail, unless the motor has been completely shut off and/or the sails furled and its progress there from has ceased. A craft under power may be used to retrieve dead or crippled birds; however, crippled birds may not be shot from such craft while under power or until forward progress has ceased. A loaded gun shall not be transported in an automobile, aircraft, motorboat or sailboat, motor bike, tractor, OFV, snowmobile or other motorized vehicle.
- By driving, rallying or chasing birds with any motorized conveyance or any sailboat to put them in the range of hunters.
- From a sinkbox. (A sinkbox is a low floating device, having a depression affording the hunter a means of concealment beneath the surface of the water.)
- By the use or aid of live decoys. All live, tame or captive ducks and geese shall be removed for a period of 10 consecutive days prior to hunting and confined within an enclosure which substantially reduces the audibility of their calls and totally conceals such tame birds from the sight of migratory waterfowl.
- By the use or aid of recorded or electronically amplified bird calls, imitations of bird calls, bird sounds, or imitations of bird sounds. Use of electronically or mechanically operated decoys that do not produce bird sounds or calls are not prohibited.
- By the aid of baiting (placing feed such as corn, wheat, salt, or other feed to constitute a lure or enticement), or on or over

Falconry is a permitted method of hunting migratory game birds. Rails, snipe, woodcock, geese, ducks, mergansers, coots and moorhens may be taken during the established firearm seasons in the respective zones and goose management units. In addition, ducks, mergansers, coots, and moorhens may be taken statewide by falconry during January 25 - March 10, 2008. The daily limit is 3 birds of single or combined species. Possession limit is 6 birds.

Some hunts are randomly selected each year to participate in state or federal harvest surveys, including collection of wings, tails, and other body parts. Accurate and complete reporting is essential for biologists to estimate the annual harvest and impact of hunting. Please do your part to help manage waterfowl by responding to surveys. The knowledge gained permits selection of annual regulations that maximize hunting opportunities while perpetuating healthy waterfowl populations for future hunters.

Hunting and trapping are exclusive rights of landowners bordering the waterway and their invited guests. Float hunters need permission to enter lands protected by the Recreational Trespass Act. You may float hunt public lands open to hunting.

to spread to millions of people around the world, which is a pandemic. This mutation has not occurred and would be very unlikely; however, government officials want us to be prepared just in case.

## Are bird hunters at risk?

The risk to bird hunters is very low, but scientists continue to urge caution. Those humans that have been infected (which is few) have received the disease from poultry, not wild birds. However, wild birds carry viruses that spread mainly through their droppings, so avoid contact with fresh bird droppings, handle birds cleanly, and thoroughly cook your birds. If you observe a die-off of six or more waterfowl, gulls, or shorebirds please call the DNR Wildlife Disease Lab at (517) 336-5030. If a single dead bird is found, either fill out the dead bird form or [www.michigan.gov/emergingdiseases](http://www.michigan.gov/emergingdiseases) or contact a local DNR field office.

See the 2007 Michigan Hunting and Trapping Guide, page 19, for precautions when processing wild game.

any baited area where a person knows or reasonably should know that the area is baited. Hunters should be aware that a baited area is considered to be baited for 10 days after the removal of the bait. Non-food imitations—for example, plastic corncocks—are not prohibited.

**IMPORTATION**—For information regarding the importation of migratory birds killed in another country, hunters should consult 50 CFR 20.61 through 20.66 or contact Senior Resident Law Enforcement Agent, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, 3800 Packard Road, Suite 160, Ann Arbor, MI 48108. One fully feathered wing must remain attached to all migratory game birds being transported between a port of entry and one's home or to a migratory bird preservation facility. No person shall import migratory game birds killed in any foreign country, except Canada, unless such birds are dressed (except as required above), drawn, and the head and feet are removed. No person shall import migratory game birds belonging to another person.

**POSSESSION AND TRANSPORTATION LIMITS**—You may not possess or transport more than the daily limit of migratory birds at or between the place where taken and (1) your automobile or principal means of land transportation, or (2) your personal abode or temporary or transient place of lodging, or (3) a commercial preservation facility, or a post office or common carrier facility, whichever one you arrive at first.

**TAGGING; FULLY FEATHERED WING**—No person shall give, put or leave any migratory game birds at any place or in the custody of another person unless the birds are tagged by the hunter with the following information:

- The hunter's signature.
- The hunter's address.
- The total number of birds involved by species.
- The dates such birds were killed.
- Current small game or sportsperson license number.

No person or business shall receive or have in custody any migratory game birds belonging to another person unless such birds are properly tagged. You may not transport any dressed or plucked bird unless one fully feathered wing is attached.

**SHIPMENT**—No person shall ship migratory game birds unless the package is marked on the outside with: (1) the name and address of the person sending the birds, (2) the name and address of the person to whom the birds are being sent, and (3) the number of birds, by species, contained in the package.

**HUNTING OR HAWKING HOURS**—No person shall take migratory game birds except during the hours open to hunting and hawking as prescribed. Reminder: During the hours closed to hunting a hunter shall not possess a firearm or bow and arrow unless the firearm is unloaded in the barrel and all arrows are placed in a quiver.

In Grand Traverse County, Boardman Lake and those waters of the Boardman River lying north of Airport Road and south of the 8th Street Bridge are closed to waterfowl hunting.

In Roscommon County, Mud Lake, Lake St. Helen and the South Branch of the Au Sable River connecting these two lakes are closed to public waterfowl hunting.

There are also other closed areas in the state. Each is posted to alert hunters that they are off limits to hunting.

Safety zones are defined as all areas within 450 feet of an occupied dwelling, house, cabin, residence, or any barn or other building used in a farm operation. No person may hunt, or discharge a firearm within a safety zone or shoot at any wild animal or wild bird while the bird or animal is within a safety zone, without the permission of the owner or occupant of such safety zone. This applies to all hunters, including waterfowl hunters on lakes, streams, or rivers. The safety zone does not apply to target shooting or other non-hunting activities.

Use of non-toxic shot is required statewide for all waterfowl hunting. When you hunt to take ducks, geese, mergansers, coots, moorhens, rails or snipe anywhere in the state of Michigan, you may not possess or use shotshells loaded with a material other than non-toxic steel, bismuth, tungsten-iron, tungsten-polymer, tungsten matrix or other shot determined by the USFWS to be non-toxic. Waterfowl hunters using muzzleloaders must also use USFWS approved non-toxic shot. Shells loaded with lead shot may be used to hunt other small game species, including woodcock. NOTE: Check area rules and DNR Web site for non-toxic shot regulations for non-waterfowl hunting on managed waterfowl areas.

Every hunter can promote sound waterfowl management by promptly reporting all banded and/or neck collared ducks and geese harvested including date and location taken. This information is used to determine annual survival, migration routes and contribution to the state harvest from different breeding grounds.

**To Report Bands, Call 800-327-BAND  
or go online to [www.reportband.gov](http://www.reportband.gov)**

**USGS PATUXENT WILDLIFE RESEARCH CENTER  
BIRD BANDING LABORATORY  
12100 BEECH FOREST ROAD  
LAUREL MD 20708-4037  
[www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl/](http://www.pwrc.usgs.gov/bbl/)**